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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/666,685

09/17/2003

Masatake Ohmori

2271/71085

8242

7590

02/06/2006

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EXAMINER

GLEITZ, RYAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2852

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

3/2

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/666,685	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OHMORI, MASATAKE	
	<b>Examiner</b> Ryan Gleitz	<b>Art Unit</b> 2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 7, 8, 14, 16, 20, 21, 27, 29, 33 and 34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8, 20, 21, 33 and 34 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 14, 16, 27 and 29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some    \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 14, 16, 27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Imaizumi et al. (US 6,327,453).

Imaizumi et al. disclose a color-image forming device including a color-image forming unit (K, Y, M, C) for forming a color image by superimposing a plurality of images corresponding to a plurality of colors onto a recording medium. Registration correction Unit (406) is an automatic color-drift correction unit for executing a correction of color drift generated during the superimposition of the images.

The registration correction process is executed at predetermined time intervals (col. 10, lines 12-16). This reads on a color-drift correction execution interval setting unit for variably setting color-drift correction execution intervals, at which color-drift correction execution intervals the automatic color-drift correction executes the color-drift correction.

Step S35 in figure 6 determines whether a predetermined time has elapsed since the previous registration correction, which reads on a color-drift correction execution time setting unit for setting a color-drift correction execution time.

Regarding claims 3 and 16, referring to figure 6, the registration correction can be performed during warm up, prior to entering preheat, when the paper is empty, after a

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predetermined time, or after a number of image formations. These are all modes in which the automatic color-drift correction is capable of executing the color-drift correction.

Regarding claims 27-29, the automatic color-drift correction unit also reads on a method for controlling color-drift correction timing.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 7, 8, 20, 21, 33, and 34 are allowed.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 1 December 2005 (Response) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant interprets the correction execution time setting unit as setting the correction to be performed at times at which the color-image forming device is rarely used (for example, prior to the start of each workday). Response, p. 12. This limitation is not found in the claim. Claims 1, 14, and 27 merely require a color-drift correction execution time setting unit capable of setting a correction execution time. They are not limited to the time of day. It should also be noted that setting the correction time on a day of the week basis was recited in original claim 6, for example, and has now been canceled.

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Applicant also submits there is no disclosure or suggestion in Imaizumi of setting a color-drift execution time, at which automatic color-drift correction starts the color-drift correction. Response p. 12. This statement is merely conclusory. Applicant has not provided why the claims distinguish over Imaizumi.

Applicants arguments with regards to the Taniwaki reference have been considered but are moot because the claims rejected over Taniwaki have been cancelled.

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

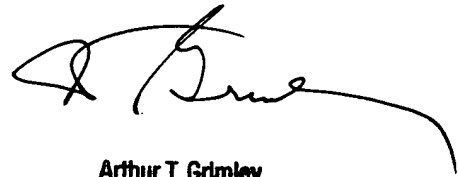
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan Gleitz whose telephone number is (571) 272-2134. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 9:00AM and 6:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on (571) 272-2136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
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